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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0351  
INFO ALL CANADIAN POSTS COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE  
WESTERN HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS DIPL POSTS

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 OTTAWA 000158

SENSITIVE  
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E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [EAID](#) [HA](#) [CA](#)  
SUBJECT: TFHA01: CANADIANS GIVE GENEROUSLY FOR HAITI RELIEF

REF: OTTAWA 86; MONTREAL 38; OTTAWA 55

11. (U) Summary: Canadians have so far contributed C\$113 million (approximately US\$105.6 million) to the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund; the government has pledged to match all such contributions through February 12. In addition, the Government of Canada has earmarked C\$135 million (approximately US\$126.2 million) for humanitarian assistance, relief, and reconstruction efforts in Haiti. Over 2,00 federal government as well as Canadian Forces (CF) personnel are now working in Haiti. The province of Quebec has also responded robustly to the disaster (ref b). Even before the January 12 earthquake, Haiti was the second largest recipient of Canadian development assistance worldwide (ref c). End summary.

DONATIONS TOP \$113 MILLION, BUT STILL TIME FOR "ONE BIG PUSH"

12. (U) During a February 8 visit to the Canadian Red Cross in Ottawa, Minister of International Cooperation Bev Oda cited the C\$113 million in contributions by individual Canadians to the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund so far, and reiterated the government's pledge to match all contributions between January 12 and February 12 (having abandoned an initial cap of C\$50 million for matching funds). The Minister stated that the outpouring of generosity had "extended far beyond expectations" and made her "proud to be Canadian." Ms. Oda urged Canadians to "make that one final effort, one big push" to maximize their contribution by February 12. The Government of Canada will allocate the funds to Canadian and international humanitarian and development organizations in support of relief and recovery efforts in Haiti.

GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO DATE

13. (U) Through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Canada has already provided C\$85 million (US\$79.5 million) in urgent humanitarian aid to Haiti. This includes: C\$5 million (US\$ 4.6 million) for urgent needs; C\$60 million (US\$56.1 million) to the UN appeal to fund essential necessities and basic services through UN agencies; C\$11.5 million (US\$10.7 million) to support critical relief efforts by Canadian NGOS, such as CARE, Medecins du Monde, Save the Children, Oxfam Quebec, the Centre for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI), and World Vision; and, C\$8.5 million (US\$ 7.9 million) to the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. CIDA also supports a field hospital managed by the Canadian and Norwegian Red Cross, and sent supplies such as tents, tarpaulins, tools, mosquito nets, hygiene kits, kitchen sets, water buckets, and jerry cans to Haiti. To date, the Government of Canada has earmarked a total of C\$135 million (US\$ 126.2 million) for humanitarian assistance, relief, and reconstruction efforts.

¶4. (U) Canada has deployed 56 expert personnel to assist with the relief effort in Haiti from a range of government departments, including the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, CIDA, Canadian Border Services Agency, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Services include search and rescue, medical and logistics personnel, engineers, and humanitarian and disaster victim identification experts. Another 19 Canadian humanitarian technical experts, including medical staff, support aid agencies on the ground in Haiti. Canada has also worked closely with the Government of Haiti, the United Nations, and the international community in support of a coordinated response to the disaster.

¶5. (U) As of February 5, 2,032 Canadian Forces (CF) personnel are serving in Haiti as part of Operation Hestia, the CF component of the Canadian government's whole-of-government response to the earthquake. The Joint Task Force Haiti has six CH-146 Griffon tactical helicopters in use, while CF aircraft have airlifted 3.5 million pounds of relief items from Canada, of which CF helicopters in Haiti have distributed over 136,000 pounds. CF personnel have distributed 157,000 liters of water and 372,900 meals, and have treated over 6,000 patients.

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¶6. (U) Minimize concerned.  
JACOBSON